

The Times-Dispatch

DAILY-WEEKLY-SUNDAY.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1910.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE RAILROADS

The President and the Western railroad people pow-wowed yesterday four or five hours. A great deal was said on both sides, for and against, with the result that the railroads agreed to withdraw all increases in rates effective June 1, and after to await the operation of the new railroad law. On his part the President agreed to withdraw the Wickersham suit when the new rate law goes into effect. The President appears to have gotten a shade the best of it. We are not informed what the railroads will do if by any chance there should be no new railroad law; but we suppose that point was fully covered in yesterday's agreement. Neither is it yet known exactly what the new rate law will be, nor whether it will afford the people the relief they demand or the railroads the security they require for the safe conduct of their business. The new rate law will probably give the Interstate Commerce Commission authority to do what Mr. Wickersham asked the Courts to do—initiate proceedings against the railroads without the complaint of shippers when the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the rates is in question. Mr. Taft is said to like old stories best, and he will appreciate, therefore, the point of the story about the white man and the colored man when the division of their bag was under discussion and of the settlement that was finally reached, when the white man said: "I'll take the turkey and you take the buzzard; or you take the buzzard and I'll take the turkey."

The thing that we cannot quite understand is why the conference that was held yesterday was not held before the Wickersham suit was begun. That would have saved many a poor fellow many a good dollar which has been lost during the last few days by the unsettled state of the market. More free conferences of this sort would promote business stability probably and prevent such slumps in the stock markets as are sure to be reflected in all branches of trade and industry. We can understand how it will now be said out in the West that Mr. Taft brought the railroads to their senses and showed them that they cannot run over the people of the country, and that the memory of the Winona mistake will be forgotten and forgiven now that he has proved that he can handle an unruly team by keeping within the law almost as well as if he were handling them with a club. However, it may turn out under the new rate law, when there is a new rate law, the panicky conditions of the last few days have been in a measure relieved, and the people will keep on ploughing.

Even in the midst of the discussion over the reformation of the hereditary House of Lords, England is pausing for a religious controversy which must end either in a victory for toleration or in a triumph for dogmatism. When the King's death upset the plans of the Liberals and prevented the settlement of the pending differences between the Lords and the Commons, John Redmond, leader of the Irish party in the Commons, at once demanded of Premier Asquith that the Government introduce a bill modifying the King's coronation oath. Redmond did this, not in any desire to bring on conflict, but because Premier Asquith, in a debate some months before the King's death, had expressed his willingness to make the change. The change requested by Redmond and approved by Asquith is, after all, a comparatively minor matter. As the coronation oath stands at present, every British King must not only swear allegiance to the Church of England and to all its tenets, but he must declare his abhorrence of the Church of Rome, his disbelief in Transubstantiation, and must pledge himself not to render service in any religious matter to the See of Rome. Mr. Asquith does not propose that the King cease to swear his allegiance to the Established Church, but he has drafted a bill which changes those parts of the oath which offend the Catholic people of England. The King is still to declare himself a faithful son of the Church of England, but he is not to profess himself an enemy of the Church of Rome. In other words, England's King, while pledging his fidelity to the religion of the great majority of his subjects, does not take occasion in his oath to insult the religious beliefs of the minority.

ENGLAND'S BATTLE FOR TOLERATION

Small as is this change, a number of extreme Protestants are protesting very vigorously against it. The chairman of the Church Association, representing the evangelical branch of the Church of England, has written a letter to Mr. Asquith in which he waves the red flag of intolerance and declares that the change proposed by Mr. Asquith will sweep aside the Act of Settlement and the Bill of Rights—

these two great documents upon which England's limited monarchy depends to-day. Other clerics and lords of high degree are urging the Premier to withdraw his promise and to let the coronation oath remain unchanged.

Liberal men of every church will hope that the Premier will not yield to these entreaties, and they will hope that he will take a determined stand, showing the Christian world that while England remains Protestant and Episcopal, it has become tolerant and just. The coronation oath is the last remnant of Protestant intolerance in England. Framed in the days when the Church of Rome was esteemed in the popular mind as the Power of Darkness itself, the old oath has remained to insult Catholics and to characterize Liberals while all the other acts of the same period have been blotted out in the light of a more liberal age. When Protestants of other than the Established Church may attend Oxford, when Jews sit in the House, and when Catholics are no longer excluded from the offices of government, when toleration is shown in every British possession, and when the chapel stands beside the church, it is high time that a generous people should wipe out all reference to the old Church from their coronation oath and announce to the world that the greatest ruler upon earth stands for the greatest principle upon earth—the right of every man to choose his own path under the guidance of his own conscience.

TRYING TO DISOWN THE CHILD.

In his speech at Jackson, Michigan, the other day, Mr. Taft said that the great problem that confronts the American people is the problem of Socialism which must soon be met. He declared that the Republican party had shown itself capable of dealing with the great question effectively and wisely, and that the American people must determine whether or not it should trust this party with the solution of the Socialistic question, "than which we have had no greater in the history of the country."

This view is probably held on the homeopathic principle *similia similibus curantur*, or, in the vernacular of Texas, the fox is the finder, the perfume lies behind her. The Republican party the enemy of Socialism, indeed, when but for that party we should not have been threatened with this problem. It has encouraged every abuse of government for the benefit of favored interests. It has made government the side partner of every form of individual and sectional plunder. It has brought government down to the "business level," and promoting by its legislation and administration the welfare of the few chosen beneficiaries of its bounty, it has encouraged in the toiling masses the belief that by the further extension of the powers of government the submerged millions would be in like condition with the favored thousands. Yet it is this party, the natural father of Socialism, the people are invited to trust in stemming the tide of Socialism.

All the evils which Mr. Taft dreads are the spawn of his own party, and the Socialists reason well when they say to themselves that the Republican party, having made things very easy for its own special beneficiaries, by using the powers of government for their elevation and enrichment, we shall do for the whole body-politic what they have done for themselves and their favorites. We, also, shall add and divide among the people what the Republicans have added and divided among themselves. It was a beautiful theory as long as it worked only in their way; and surely they cannot hold us to account now for extending to all men the blessings of the policies which have taken for the special interests what should belong to all.

GOOD FOR FREDA DOLINSKY!

Never in all our life have we said anything against the women of New York, but if, in an idle moment, we have ever thought of them in an unjust way, and if, in a critical spirit, we have compared them unfavorably with their sisters who live in this Happy Land, we make apologies for all time. We should not have thought what we thought and we should not have said what we may have had in mind to say. We ought to have known better at the time, and we certainly know better now, thanks to the achievement of Miss Freda Dolinsky, whom we are proud to introduce to the people of Richmond.

Miss Freda, it appears, is the daughter of a silk manufacturer and lives on Houston Street. She is said to be twenty years of age, though she does not look it. Sunday morning, about 2 o'clock, while sleeping with her sister, Miss Freda was aroused by a noise in the next room. She did not cover her head with the sheet and shiver until the bedposts shook. She did not pray for the coming of her father or wonder how it would feel to die. Instead, she arose quickly, went into the next room, lit the gas and, lo—in the corner was a man with a revolver pointed at her! He calmly informed her that if she troubled him, he would put a ball through her, or words to that effect, but even this threat did not faze her. Quick as a flash the young woman seized a seltzer bottle from a nearby table and opened her on the young man. Pausing only long enough to say that she could not herself have had any use for a seltzer bottle, and that it belonged to a male member of the family, we hasten to tell the rest of her heroism. Blinded by the seltzer water, the robber fired, but his shot went wild, and the next moment he was in the midst of a shower of china, wielded with wonderful skill by Miss Freda and her sister. The robber was well-nigh dead when the young women's father rushed into the room, to find his daughter holding the robber captive and punning him in a style that would have done credit to the

hero of Rowardennan. The police came quickly, haled the young man to court, and the Dolinsky household retired again for the night.

We have related this story at length, because it deserves the space. The young woman is a heroine and her daring has a place in this veracious chronicle of the times. She knew how to shoot straight, if only with seltzer; she threw the dishes with unerring skill, and she had the courage to attack the enemy without waiting for reinforcements. She deserves a medal, and she deserves the thanks of her petticoated sisters for showing the world that a New York girl is no more afraid of a burglar than a Bowery buxer is. Good for Freda Dolinsky!

STILL ON STEALING BENT.

Having stolen all the property of the Catholic Church in France that he could lay hands on, Briand, it is said, would like to restore religious peace in the country, "practically his only condition being the Church's recognition of the separation as an fait accompli." The condition is, of course, impossible. It means, as we understand it, that the Church is to recognize that the property of which it has been despoiled by the State was lawfully stolen; that the affairs of the Church shall be managed by the State; that there shall be "attribution of property not yet taken over," which means, we suppose, that the Church shall make over to the State what the State has not yet stolen, but which it stands ready to steal, with or without attribution.

The State will not deal with the Pope directly, and the Pope will not deal with the State in any other way. The State would make terms with the French Bishops, none of whom can be appointed without the consent of the Pope. The Vatican insists upon direct negotiations with Rome, and the State will not consent to this. There seems to be no way to break the deadlock. It is hoped that the Pope will stand fast. Surely he and his Church have nothing to gain by any compromise with Briand. We should say that no contract France would make with the Church now would hold. One Concordat was quite enough to establish the bad faith of France for all time.

SEVENTEEN-YEAR LOCUSTS.

Now that Halley's comet has gone on its way, properly branded as the Dr. Cook of astronomy, without doing the world the least damage, the calamity-howlers are looking around for some other method of frightening the poor man and robbing the credulous of a good night's sleep. In their extremity, they have brought the seventeen-year locusts into court again, and have promised that before the end of the year this pest will descend upon the country in its periodic visitation, and will rob us of our crops.

The seventeen-year locusts have been returning every year since the oldest inhabitant gets mixed on his dates, and have never been seen by any one yet. We are told that the locust, when he comes, brings a message to the world, either of peace or of war. If the letter "W" appears on the locust's back, there will be bloodshed and war and much tribulation, and if "P" is outlined in his markings, the locust is the harbinger of good will among brothers and of calm upon the face of the earth. This is a very pretty idea, but nobody has ever seen the "P" or the "W," or would have any more right to interpret them as meaning "peace" or "war" than he would to translate them "possum" and "weevil." Besides, we have locusts every year and plenty of them, without skipping sixteen years in seventeen.

THE SAME OLD GAME.

One of the old Latin fathers made a Trojan hero remark that he feared the Greeks, even bearing gifts, but people have been repeating his remark so steadily ever since Virgil's day that this proverb may hardly be classed among the most recent utterances of the literary world. When the railroad bill was under discussion in the Senate, and the Democrats were receiving all sorts of overtures from the Republicans, it was reported that the Republican leaders had promised the minority to take up the Statehood bills before the conservation measures received the attention of the Senate, provided the Democrats would no longer fight the passage of the railroad bill.

It was then that we hinted at the truth of the old Roman's remark, and cautioned the Democrats to leave the Republicans alone, reminding them that in other days, whenever they made a bargain with the Republicans they lived to regret it. For some reason not yet fully explained, this good advice was not taken by the Democrats and they are now sorry for it. As the proceedings in the Senate yesterday, reported this morning in The Times-Dispatch, show beyond question the bargain was struck and recorded in due time, but yesterday, when the Senate came to consider its next move, the Administration Republicans forgot all about their promise, and voted to take up the conservation bills. Now Mexico and Arizona can wait. Conservation is the order of the day, and the Democrats have no recourse. If they hold up the appropriation bills, they hold up the Statehood measures, and if they delay the vote on conservation, the Statehood bills can hardly pass during the present session of Congress.

The Democrats do not deserve a great deal of sympathy in their distress. They knew where the trap was, they had felt its spring many a time, and they walked into it with their

eyes wide open. Of course, they will have to pay for their folly. Having no desire to inform the chagrined majority that "we told you so," we would respectfully suggest that they learn a lesson from their present distress and show the Republicans no quarter during the remainder of the session. The fight is not over; adjournment is not yet agreed upon; there may be a day of vengeance yet, if the Democrats will heed the counsel of their own leaders and not be led into captivity by the tricks of the enemy.

THE ENDURANCE RUN TO-DAY.

The Endurance Run down into North Carolina will begin to-day. Fourteen cars have been entered for the prizes, as fine a lot of sterling silver cups as were ever seen in the South, and they will get back home some time, probably, within the next four or five days, and if they do not, it is certain that they will be well treated down in the Land of Canaan, where there is honey and buttermilk to spare and a most generous people who believe in good roads and are willing to pay for them.

Little as they may think, the men who are making these endurance runs are performing a great public service. Some of the more old-fashioned among us, who find some difficulty in dodging the pesky things in town, would prefer to ride in a buggy or on horseback or even to walk; but we must needs get into the procession or get run over, and there is this consolation in owning a car one can run over somebody else and take just as much delight in doing so as the most desperate of the drivers. It is really fine, when one comes to reflect upon what it means—how it makes the old dry bones stir around lively and the unused muscles of the legs catch up with their long-neglected development. We remember when the electric railroad was substituted for the dear old hay-burners in a staid community to the south of us, and how all the old ladies and Patrian gentlemen hung their harps on the willows, lamenting that the new was crowding out the old, and the vision of the Chinaman—"no horse-no-pulley-go-all - the - same-like-hellie"—was even about to be realized in the land of Manana.

It must be gratifying to all of us who are left behind, fortunately for us, that the endurance people will be well taken care of in a medical way if any of them should break their necks, and enough extra parts will be taken along to patch up any dislocations in the cars that may take place en route. The weather is delightful, the roads are in fairly good condition, the neighbors are waiting for them down the road, some of them probably with shot guns, but the most of them with plenty to eat and drink. Therefore, we are merry, because the chances of danger here at home will be decreased by twelve or fifteen at least for the next few days.

MORE "POTENTIALLY CRACKED WHEELS."

The Atlanta Constitution is pressing its campaign for the evangelization of the white people in this country, and its own "attitude" on the subject "carries a sufficient substratum of truth to give pause to the least thoughtful, as well as the more militant, of our denunciations fired with the practical missionary idea." Again, "to so distort the Gospel of Christ, as to 'reach over the Greeks at our doors' to the metaphorical 'Greeks' of jungle, strand and desert," "is to perpetrate a blunder which cannot be otherwise than detrimental to the ultimate vindication of religion everywhere." Yes, indeed, and we are more encouraged by this sort of talk than by anything else our contemporary has said for ever so long, and particularly now that Mr. Sam Inman has come out strong for the paving with wooden blocks of Mitchell Street and West Hunter Street from the end of Mitchell Street bridge to Ashby Street.

That would certainly help some, as it "would give the shortest and most convenient approach to Whitehall Street from the western part of the county, as far around as West View Cemetery." It is not unlikely that the boll weevil will try to get in from this direction, and with this paving done in the manner suggested by Mr. Inman, we have reason to believe that it would be practicable to "mentally visualize" the boll weevil, which we are assured by the most competent scientific authority cannot walk very well on pavements made of wooden blocks. However this may be, the section of the city that is to be improved in the way suggested "has long been, in a sense, a municipal orphan through inadvertent neglect accentuated in the incompleteness of the Mitchell-West Hunter link, which should join its tremendous territory to the centre of municipal activities."

Well, we should say so. This is the right way to knock out the constriiction of the "pivotal thoroughfare," called Marietta Street, which has been "penglizing" both traffic and commerce; because, as we are now informed, Ashby Street is itself "logically a pivotal artery of Atlanta." Let us keep the "logically pivotal arteries" clear and the pivotal thoroughfares will be easily handled.

This is not all, however, of the cheering news brought to us in the mammoth Sunday edition of the Constitution. The Georgia bankers will hold their annual convention in Atlanta to-day, and on Thursday there will be a rally of the commercial

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bodies of the State in Taft Hall, the same, we suppose, in which the "possum" and "taters" were served to the President on his ever-memorable journey through the South; the time, it will be remembered, when Congressman Hardwick rode in the President's private car and paid his own fare. We are told that the bankers "do not exactly occupy the intimate role of father-confessor to their respective communities, but their function is almost approximate to that in ultimate importance." There is much promise in that condition of things, and the sky brightens perceptibly in view of the assurance that "the amalgamated commercial bodies of Georgia" at their meeting on Thursday "propose substituting for the single pulling-power of one or two sporadic organizations the combined driving force of all hitched to a common car."

Of course, we are much impressed by the evidently improving situation; but we shall not breathe freely until after both these conventions have finished their work, and their members have returned in safety to their respective homes. This fear has been aroused by the statement that the railroads in Georgia are running their trains with "potentially cracked wheels." It is supposed that the Atlanta police force will be able to protect the bankers and the merchants from "murder, unafraid and insolent, standing at the elbows"; but if the worse should come to the worst they can all go out to Grant Park and take fresh courage under "those revivifying and tranquilizing influences that dwell where man has mingled his amplying magic with the riotous designs of the God of Nature."

ONLY TEMPORARY RELIEF.

It is a little queer how doctors differ. The special correspondent of The Times-Dispatch said in his Sunday review of the financial conditions in New York, "postponement by the Supreme Court of the corporation tax decision robs the Government of an expected income of \$26,000,000 in taxes, and will make necessary the sale of Government bonds before the end of the year. With the Government attacking the financial interests, it will be interesting to see how the bankers rally to its support when these bonds are offered for sale." The circular letter issued by the National City Bank of New York on the same day, and prepared for it by M. E. Alies, formerly of the Treasury Department at Washington, takes a somewhat different view of the situation. In his opinion the postponement of the corporation tax cases by the Supreme Court will afford temporary relief of the Treasury by permitting it to use in its current cash something like \$27,000,000 at a time when it is really needed, "and will result in deferring the expected issue of either Panama bonds or certificates of indebtedness for a considerable period."

It seems that the issuing of bonds in aid of the Canal is unavoidable, and the relief secured for the Treasury by the postponement of the decision of the court in the corporation cases cannot be regarded as other than temporary, so that it appears to be about as broad as it is long.

What the Court will decide as to the corporations is still very much in doubt. Probably it will conclude that the corporation tax is constitutional, the necessities of the Government being great, but if it shall so decide it will decide in error, in our opinion. The tax is unfair, it handicaps the facilities of trade, it makes fish of the corporations and flesh of the individual and the firm, it imposes an additional burden on a certain selected class of taxpayers and "penalizes" thrift.

We doubt that the Government will have much difficulty in placing whatever bonds it shall issue on account of the Panama Canal or any other account. Investors would be in the rather unhappy position of being compelled to take the securities for their own protection in other matters, so strong is the strangle hold the Government has on the commercial and industrial interests of the country. It behooves everybody just now, for the public good, to keep a level head. The country is prosperous and all values would be stable if the politicians would let them alone. We wish, if possible, to avoid any such panic as we had in 1907, and this can be done only by the shorts holding out and the longs coming in, and with every man's hand against the speculators who thrive most when other people are playing the fool or the Government is being conducted in the interest of the party in power.

Two families in Darlington County, South Carolina, shot out their differences with Winchester rifles one day last week, with the result that a negro man who was not connected with either family appears to have been injured.

Does anybody happen to know what becomes of the uniforms of the Civil Guards appointed on the staffs of the Governors in the Southern States after they have served their terms?

If Slomp should be returned to Congress in the Ninth District this year the State would be disgraced; if Stuart should be elected the State would be honored. It is a question of fitness. In which every good citizen of Virginia is interested.

No, Evalina, sweet Evalina, dear Evalina, it is not regarded in the best circles good form for a lady to chew gum in the street cars or in any public place.

A lovely woman, who was caught after she had grown up, writes from Due West with some misgivings as to her familiarity with the Shorter Catechism, and says frankly: "I don't believe you can earn it after you are grown; it certainly is as hard as anything I ever tried to learn."

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

State Officers.

Will you please give me the names of our State officers, giving the length of time each holds office and the remuneration each receives for his services? H. H. D.

You will visit the State Library and ask to see a copy of the House and Senate Manual you can get a full list of State officers. They are too numerous to be listed here.

Wickham's Brigade.

Will you give me the names of the officers in Company Wickham's Brigade, Goochland Cavalry (volunteer)? D. J.

These names are not in file in this office. If you will write Hon. Joseph V. Biddgood, Secretary of Military Records, you will get them.

WINDSOR CASTLE TO AGAIN BE POPULAR

BY LA MARQUESE DE FONTENAY.

WINDSOR CASTLE is certain to play a much more important role in the new reign than it did in those of Edward VII. and Queen Victoria, both of whom disliked the place as a residence, the late monarch preferring Sandringham. The people of Windsor complained bitterly of the extent to which the prosperity of their town was affected by King Edward's practice of restricting his stays at Windsor to about four weeks each year. George V., however, and especially his grandsons, are extremely fond of the grand castle, the most stately and picturesque abode of any sovereign in Europe, and have already given it the name of Windsor Palace. They will also spend more of the summer at Windsor than did the late King, who was content with a brief stay there of not more than three weeks each year, while Edward's stay was usually restricted to ten days, and was usually in the excellent salmon fishing and the shooting which were the chief pleasures of his country sojourn, and will spend his holidays there rather than abroad. Indeed, the transfer of the seat of government to Windsor, in the south of England, will be a great advantage to the country, and for six weeks at Marlborough, in the fall, will from henceforth be the chief pleasure of the King and Queen will be spent in Scotland.

Since Prince Francis Joseph of Braganza is credited with the intention of relieving his fortune by means of a divorce, with some American help, similar to the one contracted by his elder brother, Prince Miguel of Braganza, last year with Miss Anita Stewart, of New York, it is not surprising while to draw attention in these letters to the evidence just given concerning his affairs in the criminal suit now in progress at Berlin, and here in the case, and that the bills which he signed were obtained from some plain man, and that the prisoners in the perpetration of their swindles.

The prince did not appear in person. Being under "court" and in the position of a minor or of a lunatic—all of whose affairs are vested in hands of an official guardian or trustee, he was represented by the latter, a certain Dr. Gustav Lowy, of Neunkirchen, near Vienna. Dr. Lowy was a man of the name of the prince, that the latter was absolutely and entirely without fortune, possessed no property of his own, and was entirely dependent upon a purely fictitious allowance from his father. He added that the castle of Seebenstein, in Lower Austria, which is supposed to be the prince's home, does not figure as a residence of the prince, and that he has no right to Portuguese citizenship, but can claim that of Austria, and that he had been deprived of his family of the management of his affairs, and placed in a position infinitely worse than that of an undischarged lunatic in England, and that his relatives when they subjected him to legal curatel, for curatel debar him from the exercise of any civil rights, and that the prince had been forced to do any business on his own account. In fact, his testimony in a court of law carries little or no weight, since he is judicially irresponsible.

To this may be added that Prince Francis Joseph, since the unpleasant scandal in which he became involved in London in 1907, and which led to his arrest and his detention in custody for several days, has forfeited the command of the regiment which he held at that time, held in the Seventh Regiment of Austrian Hussars—a regiment of which the German Kaiser is colonel—and was debarré from any further right of wearing the uniform of the corps. In one word, his position is a very humiliating one, and then there severed, largely at the instance of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, who was in London for the coronation of King Edward, the prince's arrest took place, and who was so disgusted that he refused to lift a finger to help him, and that the prince was obliged to move in the matter.

Count Gustav Sizzo Noris, who has just been appointed consul-general of Austria-Hungary in London, is a brother of that Count Edward Sizzo Noris who was the subject of the scandal in London, on the eve of his proposed departure for the United States. Edward Sizzo Noris was well-known in London, where he was engaged, amongst other things, in the promotion of a company for the purpose of furnishing the principal cities on this side of the Atlantic with the famous medicinal waters of Marienbad. He was especially a familiar figure at the St. James Club in Piccadilly, and at the leading restaurants, while in the clubs he attracted attention by his inordinate craze for gambling.

It was this, indeed, which was his bane, and although his mother was a great heiress, namely, a member of the Jewish family of the Rothschilds, he had exhausted the generosity of his relatives, who helped him time and again. His financial troubles, and with the social disadvantages to which he was subjected at the court of Vienna, and in official and social life there, led him to the desperate step of joining the Austrian army, in which he had held a commission in a crack lancer regiment. After that he tried many things, was for a time connected with a bank at Johannesburg, and afterwards with various mining ventures, and in London, on one occasion, when he had lost \$20,000 or \$30,000 at cards at the St. James Club in Piccadilly, where the play is invariably high, he was dropped for the failure to pay his losses within a given time, and for his refusal to make any arrangement for their liquidation. Some months later he suddenly reappeared, settled his losses in full, and insisted, moreover, upon paying interest. The club, realizing what he had suffered by the stigma of having been dropped for defaulting in payment of his debts, and of having been subjected to the social and financial behavior in the matter, reinstated him on its books.

General Kuropatkin, minister of war at St. Petersburg prior to Russia's war with Japan, and generalissimo of

the Muscovite forces during a portion of the conflict, has submitted to the Czar a number of important suggestions based upon his experiences, and which are of great value, and attract attention, not only in his own country, but also abroad, especially in Germany.

With regard to the press, he is anxious for the utmost publicity and investigation after the war is over, but declares that while it is in progress the newspapers should be compelled to abstain from criticizing commanders, since such criticisms are calculated to impair the confidence of the rank and file in their leaders and to promote insubordination and indiscipline.

General is particularly bitter about the number of surrenders during the last war, and calls attention to the failure of the Russian Government to law which requires that every officer who becomes a prisoner of war, uninvited, should be required to furnish an explanation of the circumstances. He urges the enactment of a stringent rule for the expulsion of all such officers from the army in disgrace, on the presumption of cowardice.

He also insists that the removal of the wounded from the line of fire during battle should be left to the army, and that the ambulance corps, and that officers and men who take advantage of the wounding of a comrade to retire from the battle should be severely punished. The amount of shirking which was done on the Russian side in the war with Japan in this connection he describes as something almost beyond belief.

Finally, he insists that the law which should provide for the punishment of death for every field officer who does not place himself at the head of his troops in the hour of battle, and who, doing the attempt to execute the orders which he has received, and for the commander of any fortress who surrenders, should be left to the army, by storm or rendered absolutely defenseless by famine and disease.

There is a general impression among military men both in Russia and abroad, that the arguments of General Kuropatkin are well founded, and that in modern war the army must have the tendency to treat with a great deal too much leniency cases of gross cowardice in the field, especially in the matter of surrenders. The latter was many cases of this kind during the Boer war, which were hushed up and never punished, but which are familiar to most military men.

Voice of the People

Communications must not contain more than 300 words. When this limit is exceeded letters will be returned. No anonymous communications will be accepted. A stamped envelope, with the writer's address, must accompany every communication.

Card from Supr. J. H. Goddin.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—I think it due the Putnam Gospel Mission, which has done a great religious work since it started, two years ago, and to myself, to make a statement of what has been the Putnam Mission has nothing to do with the charges brought against Mr. Buchanan, nor did any one connected with it have anything to do with the charges against Mr. Buchanan. When the first witness was put on the stand, the Putnam Mission was brought into the matter. I arose and asked whether the mission was being investigated or Mr. Buchanan. No reply was made. I then asked the Putnam Mission had nothing to do with the charges brought against Mr. Buchanan, nor did any one connected with it have anything to do with the charges against Mr. Buchanan. When the Putnam Mission was brought into the investigation, and after my name was mentioned, I had anything to do with the charges brought against Mr. Buchanan. I felt hurt and was rightfully indignant, and expressed my feelings in very emphatic language, stating that there could be no rivalry between us, as ours was strictly a religious work, while the other was charity work, not religious.

My reply was too short; I was certain, eternally, long, with this statement I am done with the matter, and shall employ my energies in helping to save the lost souls of men, and I am hastening as fast as time can take them to an endless eternity.

J. H. GODDIN.
 Founder and Superintendent Putnam Theatre Gospel Mission.
 June 6, 1910.

Do you know that neglect only aggravates matters in cases of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Costiveness, Biliousness, and Malaria, Fever & Ague? Be wise in time and commence taking the Bitters.

HOSTETTER'S CELEBRATED STOMACH BITTERS